

Message Text

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TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, CB

SUBJECT: KHMER UN REPRESENTATION ISSUE

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF INDONESIAN FONMIN ADAM MALIK'S UN COMMENTS ON KHMER REPUBLIC DELIVERED SEPTEMBER 24. POSTS MAY DRAW UPON THESE NOT ONLY AS FULLY ARTICULATED ATTITUDES OF IMPORTANT ASIAN NEIGHBOR OF CAMBODIA, BUT ALSO AS VIEWS OF FOUNDING MEMBERS OF NON-ALIGNED GROUP. EMBASSIES MAY, AT THEIR DISCRETION, PASS INFORMALLY TO HOST GOVERNMENTS, IF THERE IS NO RESIDENT INDONESIAN MISSION, AS A FOLLOW-UP TO DEMARCHES ALREADY MADE ON BEHALF OF KHMER REPRESENTATION AT UNGA AND UNESCO.

BEGIN QUOTE. IN THE SAME WAY, THE TRAGIC SITUATION IN THE KHMER REPUBLIC IS A SOURCE OF DEEP CONCERN TO INDONESIA. THE SACRIFICES IN HUMAN LIVES AND SUFFERING WHICH THIS CONFLICT HAS EXACTED, AS WELL AS ITS POTENTIAL TO CAUSE WIDER INSTABILITY IN THE REGION, MAKES US FERVENTLY HOPE THAT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM WILL BE ACHIEVED THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS AMONG THE CONTENDING FACTIONS OF THE KHMER PEOPLE THEMSELVES. THE WAY IN WHICH THIS PROBLEM IS NOW BEING PRESENTED TO THE ASSEMBLY, THEREFORE, CAUSES THE GREATEST MISGIVINGS TO MY DELEGATION.

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MR. PRESIDENT, IT REMAINS INDONESIA'S CONSIDERED VIEW THAT THE KHMER PEOPLE SHOULD BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO RESOLVE

THEIR OWN PROBLEMS IN PEACE, WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTERVENTION OR IMPOSITION, AND TO DECIDE FOR THEMSELVES THE LEADERSHIP THEY WANT AND THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT UNDER WHICH THEY CHOOSE TO LIVE.

WE ARE AGAINST THE IDEA OF THE UNITED NATIONS TRYING TO IMPOSE A GOVERNMENT AND A LEADERSHIP ON THE KHMER PEOPLE. WE WOULD FULLY SUPPORT UNITED NATIONS INTERVENTION IN THE KHMER PROBLEM, HOWEVER, IF INDEED SUCH INTERVENTION WOULD LEAD TOWARDS ENDING THE FIGHTING AMONG KHMERS AND TOWARDS A PEACEFUL OVERALL SOLUTION.

WE ARE CONVINCED THAT TO IMPOSE A LEADERSHIP AND A GOVERNMENT BY U.N. RESOLUTION ON THE KHMER PEOPLE, WILL NOT BRING ABOUT A SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT, WILL NOT END THE FIGHTING AND BLOODSHED AMONG KHMERS AND, ON THE CONTRARY, WILL INTENSIFY AND PROLONG IT. THUS, IT WOULD BE A TRAGIC IRONY INDEED IF THE UNITED NATIONS, AFTER SO MANY YEARS OF UNINVOLVEMENT IN INDOCHINA, NOW SUDDENLY DECIDES TO INTERVENE, NOT TO BRING PEACE BUT, IN EFFECT, TO ENCOURAGE AND PROLONG CONFLICT AND BLOODSHED AMONG KHMERS.

IF THE UNITED NATIONS IS TO TAKE ACTION, THEN TO MY DELEGATION'S VIEW IT WOULD BE MORE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES AND PURPOSES OF THE CHARTER IF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WOULD APPEAL TO THE CONTENDING PARTIES TO STOP THE FIGHTING AND START NEGOTIATIONS FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION ACCEPTABLE TO ALL OF THE KHMER PEOPLE. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT WOULD LIKE TO REFER TO THE OFFER MADE ON THE 9TH OF JULY 1974 BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC IN PHNOM PENH, TO START NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT ANY PRECONDITIONS AND WITH ANY REPRESENTATIVE OF KHMERS "ON THE OTHER SIDE", IN ORDER TO FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THEIR CONFLICT AND TO END THE KILLING AMONG BROTHERS. MY DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT THIS OFFER SHOULD BE WELCOMED BY THE ASSEMBLY AS ONE FULLY IN CONFORMITY WITH THE SPIRIT OF ALL UNITED NATIONS ENDEAVOURS TO SEEK PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO
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PROBLEMS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS.

ALLOW ME NOW TO REITERATE BRIEFLY MY GOVERNMENT'S POSITION WITH REGARD TO THE QUESTION OF NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TO CAMBODIA.

WE HAVE NOTHING AGAINST PRINCE SIHANOUK OR THE SO-CALLED "ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION OF CAMBODIA". IN FACT, THE INDONESIAN PEOPLE RESPECT PRINCE SIHANOUK FOR

HIS ROLE IN THE STRUGGLE OF THE KHMER PEOPLE FOR INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY. BUT THE KHMER PARLIAMENT, HIS OWN PARLIAMENT, ELECTED BY THE KHMER PEOPLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH

THE KHMER CONSTITUTION, DEPOSED HIM, AND HE IS NOW MAKING HIS CLAIM TO NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AS AN EXILE FROM THE CAPITAL OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE, INDONESIA IS AGAINST RECOGNITION OF A GOVERNMENT IN EXILE AS LONG AS THERE EXISTS A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT IN THE COUNTRY ITSELF, LAWFULLY ESTABLISHED AND ACCEPTED BY THE PEOPLE ON THE BASIS OF THEIR OWN CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES.

IF THE ASSEMBLY WERE TO EMBARK UPON RECOGNITION OF SUCH REGIMES IN EXILE IT WOULD NOT ONLY BE TANTAMOUNT TO INTERFERING IN THE DOMESTIC JURISDICTION OF A STATE BUT WOULD INDEED SET A PRECEDENT ENDANGERING THE VERY STRUCTURE OF THE UNITED NATIONS. TODAY IT CONCERNS THE KHMER REPUBLIC, TOMORROW IT MAY BE ANOTHER COUNTRY, PERHAPS ONE OF THOSE WHO NOW SUPPORT THE IDEA OF RECOGNIZING A REGIME IN EXILE BECAUSE OF FEELINGS OF SOLIDARITY WITH A PERSON OR GROUPS REPRESENTING CERTAIN POLITICAL BELIEFS OR BECAUSE OF EMOTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS. I WOULD STRONGLY SUGGEST, THEREFORE, TO LET THE CHOICE REMAIN WITH THE PEOPLE AND NOT TO ALLOW THE UNITED NATIONS TO INTRODUCE THE PRACTICE OF IMPOSING A GOVERNMENT UPON A PEOPLE.

UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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